(1) Chhatrapur (Distt. Ganjam), (2) Duburi (Distt. Jaipur), and (3) Chipilima (Distt. Sambalpur) on provisional basis. This amount could be utilised by the implementing agency for establishment of Growth Centres only after the Project Reports submitted by the State Government for these growth centres were finally approved by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per the guidelines issued on this Growth Centre Scheme, the first instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs is to be released on final approval of the project report. In the initial stage (1990-91 and 1991-92), the first instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs each was released on provisional basis for 33 growth centres, including the three growth centres of Orissa as mentioned in the answer to part (a) of the Question. The Growth Centre at Kesinga was not identified by that time. Now the release of Central assistance on provisional basis has been discontinued and no amount has been released on provisional basis for any growth centre in the country after 1991-92. It will, therefore, not be possible to release any Central assistance for any growth centre before the project report is approved by the Government of India.

Pending cases in Delhi

2576. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of cases are pending in the three district courts in Delhi, some of which are nearly 35 year old;

(b) if so, the reasons of their pendency and the steps taken to overcome the same;

(c) whether one of the reasons for the delay is the adopting of dilatory tactics by the parties;

(d) if so, how it is proposed to be tackled;

(e) whether the involvement of the court staff in delaying the cases is also one of the reasons; and

(f) if so, the number of court staff found indulging in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As on 1.7.1995, a total number of 5,72,903 cases including Traffic Challans numbering 2,56,082 were pending in Districts/Subordinate Courts in Delhi. There is no case which is 35 years old.

(b) The pendency of cases is due to various reasons, viz; the increase in the population in Delhi, increase in awareness of Legal rights and strikes by lawyers practising in the Subordinate Courts. The Registry of Delhi High Court has informed that the Subordinate Courts are making every possible effort to expedite the disposal of pending cases.

(c) and (d) The Registry has informed that whenever such instances come to the notice of the High Court, the Presiding Officer is advised to avoid unnecessary adjournments.

(e) and (f) No such instance has come to the notice of the Delhi High Court.

Requirement of electronic voting machines

2577. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many electronic voting machines are required for the whole country;

(b) how many of these are available; and

(c) whether Government will consider using the available machines in the rigging-prone areas like Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Approximately six lakhs.

(b) 1.5 lakhs.

(c) The Government had asked the Election Commission in May, 1993 itself

to use the existing Electronic Voting Machines in elections wherever feasible. The Commission has now informed that it has decided to explore the possibility of using the Electronic Voting Machines in the next general election and has decided to ascertain the views of the all National and recognised State Political Parties before taking a final decision in the matter.

DDA's Delay in Handing over the land for Kabristan

2578. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDA, in November 1989 had earmarked a piece of land, duly approved by the Technical Committee, near the marginal road, adjacent to the Water Supply office, Ramesh Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi; for Kabristan for the Muslim Community residing in the area.

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in handing over the said land to MCD; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPTT. OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. In June, 1989 the Technical Committee of DDA recommended a site subject to its processing for change of land use.

(b) and (c) On further examination by DDA, the proposed site was found located very near the thickly populated residential locality and therefore, not found suitable. An alternative site has been identified and the matter has been referred to the Technical Committee for further examination.

Non-Viable IRDP Projects

2579. NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many projects under IRDP are proving to be non-viable as seen from status of recovery of the loans;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is envisaging any study to find the precise reasons for such failures; and

(c) if not, the reasons for such a poor recovery rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) (SHRI VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR): (a) It is true that the percentage of recovery to demand under IRDP as reported by the Public Sector Banks has not been satisfactory. However, the Status of recovery cannot be treated as the sole indicative for the non-viability of projects under IRDP.

(b) and (c) In a recent study conducted by RBI on IRDP the following reasons for poor recovery of loans were identified:-

(i) loans sanctioned were inadequate;

(ii) acquisition of inferior quality assets;

(iii) fixation of repayment period was shorter than that prescribed under NABARD norms;

(iv) lack of demand for products generated;

(v) leakages on account of unforeseen family expenses;

(vi) loss of assets due to theft/ natural calamities etc.;

(vii) misutilisation of loans; and

(viii) wilful default.